



Reducing vulnerability to climate change in sub-Saharan Africa: The need for better evidence

Author(s): Kula N, Haines A, Fryatt R
Year: 2013
Journal: PLoS Medicine. 10 (1): e1001374

Abstract:

Summary Points: (1) Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) has contributed the least of any world region to the global accumulation of greenhouse gas emissions yet will be more vulnerable to the impacts of climate change than any other. (2) Despite the growing awareness of Africa's vulnerability to climate change, there is very little empirical evidence on the health effects of climate change in SSA. (3) A cross-disciplinary research agenda needs to be developed to enhance understanding of the health effects of climate change in different settings within SSA linking meteorology, climatology, other relevant sectors and health. (4) Adaptive capacity needs to be built through health systems strengthening, and developing more resilient health facilities and supply chains. (5) The health dividend of many actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions needs to be better understood and appreciated by the climate change and public health communities.

Source: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3551946>

Resource Description

Communication: ☒

resource focus on research or methods on how to communicate or frame issues on climate change; surveys of attitudes, knowledge, beliefs about climate change

A focus of content

Communication Audience: ☒

audience to whom the resource is directed

Health Professional

Exposure : ☒

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Unspecified Exposure, Unspecified Exposure

Geographic Feature: ☒

resource focuses on specific type of geography

None or Unspecified

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Geographic Location:

resource focuses on specific location

Non-United States

Non-United States: Africa

African Region/Country: African Region

Other African Region: Sub-Saharan Africa

Health Co-Benefit/Co-Harm (Adaption/Mitigation):

specification of beneficial or harmful impacts to health resulting from efforts to reduce or cope with greenhouse gases

A focus of content

Health Impact:

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

General Health Impact, Morbidity/Mortality, Other Health Impact

Other Health Impact: Global disability adjusted life years

Intervention:

strategy to prepare for or reduce the impact of climate change on health

A focus of content

Mitigation/Adaptation:

mitigation or adaptation strategy is a focus of resource

Adaptation, Mitigation

Population of Concern: A focus of content

Population of Concern:

populations at particular risk or vulnerability to climate change impacts

Low Socioeconomic Status

Resource Type:

format or standard characteristic of resource

Policy/Opinion

Resilience:

capacity of an individual, community, or institution to dynamically and effectively respond or adapt to shifting climate impact circumstances while continuing to function

A focus of content

Timescale:

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time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified

Vulnerability/Impact Assessment:

resource focus on process of identifying, quantifying, and prioritizing vulnerabilities in a system

A focus of content